

**IN THE CIRCUIT COURT, FOURTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,
IN AND FOR DUVAL COUNTY, FLORIDA**

ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER NO. 2020-16

RE: EXTENSION OF THE FALL TERM 2019 FOR THE DUVAL COUNTY GRAND JURY DUE TO THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY

WHEREAS, on March 9, 2020, Governor DeSantis of the State of Florida declared a state of emergency due to the outbreak of the Coronavirus in our State;

WHEREAS, on March 13, 2020, the Supreme Court of Florida entered Administrative Order No. AOSC20-13 regarding COVID-19 Emergency Procedures in the Florida State Courts, which ordered the temporary suspension of various court proceedings, including “[a]ll grand jury proceedings through March 27, 2020”;

WHEREAS, on April 6, 2020, the Supreme Court of Florida entered Administrative Order No. AOSC20-23 regarding Comprehensive COVID-19 Emergency Measures for the Florida State Courts that extended “previously enacted temporary remedial measures...until the close of business on May 29, 2020”, and specifically stated that “[a]ll grand jury proceedings...shall remain suspended”;

WHEREAS, the State of Florida selected the current Duval County Grand Jury on November 4, 2019;

WHEREAS, the Duval County Grand Jury is scheduled to serve its current term through May 4, 2020;

WHEREAS, the State of Florida filed the State’s Petition to Extend Duval County Grand Jury Fall Term 2019 Due to Florida Supreme Court Restrictions on Jury Service Due to COVID Pandemic on May 1, 2020;

WHEREAS, in order to comply with the instructions from Governor DeSantis and the Supreme Court of Florida, and in order to appropriately respond to the current public health emergency, this Court is granting the State’s Petition to Extend Duval County Grand Jury Fall Term 2019 Due to Florida Supreme Court Restrictions on Jury Service Due to COVID Pandemic and extending the Fall Term 2019 for the current Duval County Grand Jury through July 31, 2020;

NOW THEREFORE, by the authority vested in me as the Chief Judge of the Fourth Judicial Circuit and pursuant to the Florida Rules of Judicial Administration, it is hereby

ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that:

1. The Fall Term 2019 for the current Duval County Grand Jury is hereby extended through July 31, 2020.
2. This Administrative Order shall be recorded by the Clerk of the Court, in the Official Records of Duval County, in the State of Florida, shall take effect immediately, and shall remain in full force and effect until further order of this Court.

DONE AND ORDERED in Chambers at Jacksonville, Duval County, Florida, this 1st day of May, 2020.



MARK H. MAHON
CHIEF JUDGE

- cc:
- All Judges in the Fourth Judicial Circuit
 - All Magistrates in the Fourth Judicial Circuit
 - The Honorable Ronnie Fussell, Clerk of Courts, Duval County
 - The Honorable Charles G. Cofer, Esq, Public Defender
 - The Honorable Melissa W. Nelson, Esq., State Attorney
 - The Honorable Jason R. Gabriel, Esq., General Counsel
 - The Honorable Mike Williams, Sheriff, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office
 - Major Claude Colvin, Jacksonville Sheriff's Office, Courthouse Security
 - Joseph G. Stelma, Fourth Judicial Circuit Trial Court Administrator
 - Eve Janocko, Chief Deputy Trial Court Administrator
 - Mike Smith, Court Technology Officer
 - Steven Woodard, Emergency Preparedness Director
 - Julie K. Taylor, Court Counsel
 - Stephen Siegel, Esq., Office of the State Attorney
 - Janet Abel, Circuit Director, Office of Criminal Conflict and Civil Regional Counsel
 - Fourth Circuit Court Law Library, Duval County
 - Judicial Staff Attorneys, Fourth Judicial Circuit
 - The Jacksonville Bar Association

STATE OF FLORIDA
DUVAL COUNTY
 I, UNDERSIGNED Clerk of the Circuit & County Courts, Duval County, Florida, DO HEREBY CERTIFY the within and foregoing, consisting of 2 pages, is a true and correct copy of the original as it appears on record and file in the office of the Clerk of Circuit & County Courts of Duval County, Florida.
 WITNESS my hand and seal of Clerk of Circuit & County Courts at Jacksonville, Florida, this the 1st day of May, 2020
RONNIE FUSSELL
 Clerk, Circuit and County Courts
 Duval County, Florida
 By Evelyn Chan
 Deputy Clerk